

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-05 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIE-00

EUR-25 ISO-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 SS-20 NSCE-00 NSC-07 L-03

PRS-01 PA-04 AGR-20 COME-00 EB-11 /123 R

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APPROVED BY IO - RDMOREY

EUR/CE - HWILGIS

IO/UN/BAPS - WMSOUTHWORTH

IO/SEC - RVHENNES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

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NESCO, FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : AORG, UN, GW

SUBJECT : UN ADMINISTRATION: TRANSLATION OF UN

DOCUMENTS INTO GERMAN

REF : USUN 2749

1. WE CAN SUPPORT FRG/AUSTRIAN PROPOSAL FOR TRANSLATION OF
KEY UNGA DOCUMENTS INTO GERMAN IN LIGHT DEVELOPMENTS AND
U.S. POSITIONS ON INTRODUCTION OF LANGUAGES IN UN AND

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SPECIALIZED AGENCIES.

2. NOTWITHSTANDING OUR READINESS TO SUPPORT PROPOSAL WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS. RECENT JIU REPORT ON PATTERN OF CONFERENCES (JIU/REP/74/4) AND USYG LEWANDOWSKI'S MAY 23, 1974 MEMO ON EXCESSIVE DOCUMENTATION HEIGHTEN OUR CONCERN.

3. MISSION SHOULD INFORM SPONSORS OF OUR SYMPATHETIC UNDERSTANDING AND READINESS TO SUPPORT PROPOSAL. SHOULD ALSO ELICIT FROM THEM REACTIONS TO OUR CONCERNS:

(A) WE WONDER IF PROPOSAL IS FIRST STEP TOWARDS PRESSING FOR GERMAN AS OFFICIAL AND WORKING LANGUAGE IN UN AND OTHER AGENCIES;

(B) WILL OTHER NATIONS, FOLLOWING UP PREVIOUS SIGNALS IN UN AND ELSEWHERE, SEIZE OPPORTUNITY TO TIE TO GERMAN PROPOSAL THE INTRODUCTION OF OTHER LANGUAGES SUCH AS JAPANESE, HINDI AND AN AFRICAN LANGUAGE OR WILL THEY LATER TAKE ADVANTAGE OF GERMAN WEDGE TO PRESS FOR OTHER LANGUAGES?

(C) UN IS APPROACHING BREAKING POINT ON ABILITY TO PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION AND LANGUAGE SERVICES AND SOME MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS ARE APPROACHING CHOKING POINT ON PAYING ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

4. IN EXCHANGE FOR OUR SUPPORT WILL SPONSORS AGREE TO PAY ADDED COSTS OR JOIN IN SPONSORING "PAY FOR WHAT YOU USE" SYSTEM OF DEFRAIVING LANGUAGE COSTS AS PROPOSED BY USDEL IN FIFTH COMMITTEE DEBATE ON ARABIC AT 28TH UNGA. MISSION SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT GERMANS AND AUSTRIANS ARE FULLY ABLE TO PAY ADDED COSTS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE178599
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JCSAULS:MFW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740223-1092
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740846/aaaabnqp.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USUN 2749
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <15 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: : UN ADMINISTRATION: TRANSLATION OF UN DOCUMENTS INTO GERMAN
TAGS: AORG, GE, UN
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005